

**Virginia Department of Health
Pandemic Influenza Weekly Report #34
November 20, 2006**

WORLDWIDE UPDATE.

The World Health Organization added two cases and one death to their cumulative count of human cases of H5N1 influenza this week. The two cases both were reported from Indonesia. One ill person is an adult who remains hospitalized. The other was a young child who died. The exposure for the adult is under investigation. Chicken deaths were reported to have occurred near the home of the child. The total case count is now 258, including 153 deaths (59.3%).

VDH ACTIVITIES – Central Office

- No weekly report will be published next week.
- The next meeting of the Virginia Pandemic Influenza Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2007, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- Virginia Association of Counties (VACO), Virginia Municipal League (VML), VDH, VDEM, have developed a Pandemic Flu Workshop to be conducted for local officials in Harrisonburg on December 1.
- Deputy Commissioner gave presentations on PanFlu to Virginia Association of School Boards and the Virginia Public Health Safety Outreach Conference in Williamsburg.
- Central Office Epidemiologist gave a presentation on Pan Flu and preparedness planning at a meeting of the Virginia Council of Churches.
- Health Districts and EP&R Regions continue community outreach and coordinated PanFlu planning (refer to attached VDH Pandemic Flu Activities Progress Report).

VDH Pandemic Flu Activities Progress Report

VDH ACTIVITIES – Regional Reports

- **Central Region**

- Medical Consultant delivered a Pandemic Flu presentation to the U.S. Fourth Circuit Courts COOP Conference.

VDH ACTIVITIES – Health District Reports

- **Alexandria**

- Presented the final current draft of the Mayor's Pandemic Influenza Working Group Interim Report to the Alexandria City Council.
- Conducted full-scale, two-shift vaccination exercise using entire Health Department staff and volunteers, providing vaccinations to approximately 700 clients.

- **Chesapeake**

- A Pandemic Influenza Task Force meeting was held. Continue to add new members our task force from local agencies and businesses. The focus of discussion for this meeting was the direction our task force will take in PanFlu preparedness in 2007.
- Provided pandemic influenza information pamphlets and business card size thermometers to agencies represented by our task force members; namely, the City Office of Emergency Management, Human Services, Chesapeake General Hospital, Public Schools, and Community Services for distribution to their employees and/or to supplement any PanFlu talk they may be presenting.

- **Chesterfield**

- Health Educator made a presentation on Pandemic Influenza to approximately 30 employees at a local industrial plant as part of their monthly safety training. A presentation to staff at a local doctor's office had to be cancelled at the last minute but will be rescheduled in the future.
- A school nurse presented information on Pandemic Influenza and provided handouts to the entire faculty of three elementary schools.
- Planner met with the Powhatan Chamber of Commerce to explain available resources and presentations that the Health Department can provide to local businesses regarding pandemic influenza.

- **Chickahominy**

- Requested assistance from Hanover HD team in obtaining contacts for PanFlu Citizens' Coalition
- Met with Charles City School Superintendent and Key people on School Board to begin planning for Charles City Schools.
- Followed up with Janet Crawley, Charles City Superintendent with brochures on Hand washing; PanFlu information on VDH web site; information on Fit Testing two school nurses in Charles City for Charles City Schools
- Researched PanFlu literature and printed PanFlu messages from VDH web for public and for first MRC meeting in Charles City and New Kent
- Attended New MRC at Charles City and New Kent Fire Station
- Formed Public Media announcement for PanFlu for media distribution-to present to marketing team meeting for refinement.
- Met with Emergency Planner, Charles City, Jack Miniclier, to begin to discuss PanFlu and schedule another meeting for in-depth planning for Citizens' Coalition.

- **Crater**

- Planner and Epidemiologist conducted a Pandemic Influenza presentation at the morning Rotary Club in Petersburg. The presentation included historical data, the possible effects of a pandemic on Petersburg, as well as ways to prepare their homes and businesses.
- The Petersburg Pandemic Flu Task Force met to discuss planning efforts and to gage the effectiveness of staff education by Health Department Staff. With the consensus that the presentations were an effective form of education, the team agreed to continue with the efforts. Additionally, the team will begin to work through the PanFlu Checklists provided by the PandemicFlu.gov website.
- Health Director and PIO presented an informational session for the management staff at Southside Regional Medical Center. The session included information on planning, preparedness, and effective joint communication. Another session was scheduled for the Medical Staff at SRMC.
- **Cumberland Plateau**
 - Planner attended the November 2006 EP&R Planners meeting and a PanFlu Fatality Management presentation by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.
 - Planner provided pertinent PanFlu information and online resources to a local home care agency.
- **Eastern Shore**
 - Organized and held flu clinics utilizing mass vaccination practices. Will set up additional clinics when more vaccine arrives.
 - Spoke with two long-term care facilities in concert with the Epidemiologist regarding proper respiratory hygiene.
 - Spoke with elementary students regarding respiratory hygiene and influenza signs and symptoms.
- **Hampton**
 - Director presented avian flu issues to the Hampton City Government and department heads and gave a PanFlu presentation to the Virginia Peninsula chapter of the Military Officers of America Association (MOAA).
- **Henrico**
 - District continued to work on the after action report from the mass vaccination exercise by creating and posting a web-based survey for exercise participants and gathering and analyzing other data.
 - Epidemiologist sent the weekly avian flu update to local hospitals and community partners.
 - Planner attending the VDH state-wide Emergency Planner conference, in which pandemic influenza was one of the topics of discussion.
 - District Epidemiologist and Nurse Epidemiologist attended the VDH state-wide Epidemiology conference, in which pandemic influenza was one of the topics of discussion.
- **Lenowisco**
 - District Planner and Epidemiologist attended the annual Epidemiologist and the annual Planner meeting in Charlottesville.
 - District Planner attended Crisis Management Training with the Wise County Public Schools Emergency Response/Crisis Management Task Force.
- **Mount Rogers**
 - Interaction with Highlands Union Banking officials regarding pandemic planning and Public Health Contacts in multiple states. The contact information from the

- Mountain Empire Public Health Emergency Coordination Council members was provided.
- Mount Rogers conducted a vaccination exercise. Nine simultaneous PODs were activated. One of the PODs was completely Spanish-speaking. Approx. 300 flu vaccines were given.
 - A vaccination exercise was conducted with the Washington County School System employees and school nurses. Vaccines were provided at 15 schools in Washington County. A total of 300 vaccines were provided to school system staff.
 - MRC coordinator gave pandemic influenza and personal preparedness presentation to SW Virginia deaf and hard of hearing association. Fifteen present for presentation. Presentation was given utilizing two sign language interpreters.
 - MRC coordinator gave pandemic influenza presentation to State Street United Methodist Church in Bristol, Va., to 10 members.
 - **New River**
 - Working through New River Valley Regional Emergency Planning Coalition to identify home health care recipients/locations and communicating this information to Department of Social Services, Red Cross, ADA-state and local levels for outreach to special need population with emergency preparedness planning/response/recovery.
 - Thank you letters and evaluation forms sent to participants of the Radford City drive through flu dispensing clinic.
 - Radford City drive-through flu vaccine dispensing evaluation forms sent out to District staff.
 - Reviewing evaluations from Pandemic Flu Summit at Inn at VA Tech.
 - **Norfolk**
 - Director, Planner and MRC coordinator met with the Norfolk Homeless Consortium to further the outreach to homeless populations, including families and children. The organizations participating in the NHC will have information on pandemic influenza made available for their clients. Preparations for continuity of operations were also discussed.
 - The American Red Cross of Southeastern Virginia continues to work with the district on educational initiatives directed toward home care.
 - **Prince William**
 - Evaluations and the After Action Report for the Prince William Flu Clinic are being combined to provide feedback for all of the players involved in the clinic. An After Action Report meeting has been set to review evaluations and report; AAR is expected to be complete by end of December. Supplies were inventoried and returned to storage.
 - Planner attended the Incident Management and Homeland Security Conference at the Dulles Expo Center. The conference included speakers from the London Fire Brigade and police Departments who responded to the July 2005 London Bombings. A speaker provided information regarding Mass Fatality.
 - Planner attended Emergency Planner Meeting in Charlottesville and Epidemiology Field Exercise.
 - Planner was involved in COCA CDC Conference call for Pandemic planning.
 - District sponsored a mass fatality planning meeting for NOVA region at NVRC. Planning efforts are underway to look at regional resources. Emergency Preparedness, EMS, police, public health, hospitals and funeral homes from all five districts were present; planning a potential concept paper for UASI funding.
 - BEPS conference call regarding the UASI funding.

- Hired a part-time MRC coordinator and special needs planner for pandemic preparedness.
- Continue to distribute pandemic backpacks to agencies who care for special needs populations.
- **Rappahannock/Rapidan**
 - Participated in FLUEX '06 along with both local hospitals and two county EOCs. Set up two simultaneous vaccination clinics for first responders as part of the FLUEX '06 exercise.
 - Delivered over 20,000 educational packets to all schools in three counties. The last two schools (for a total of 31,000 packets) will be delivered next week. In addition, senior centers in each of the counties assisted with assembling these packets and received copies of the information.
 - Participated in the VDEM Region II tabletop exercise with representatives from all five counties.
 - Mailed information on Pandemic flu, seasonal flu, and an educational DVD to all nursing homes in the five counties.
 - Mailed information on Pandemic flu and seasonal flu to all day care centers in the five counties.
 - Presentation on personal preparedness and pandemic flu given to the Rappahannock County Schools PTO, Health Department nurse is participating in a school advisory panel planning for PanFlu in Rappahannock County
- **Roanoke/Alleghany**
 - Roanoke and Alleghany Health Districts partnered with Roanoke Civic Center and Dabney Lancaster Community College to hold Mass Vaccination exercises. Each site completed a shift change and both sites were a success. Emergency Planners and Health Educator identified some areas for improvement.
 - Health Educator met with Alleghany County, City of Covington and City of Salem school systems to consult on school system PanFlu planning progress.
- **Southside**
 - All district staff participated in Mass vaccination exercise/clinic in Brunswick High School with school nurses, nursing students, county emergency coordinator and county administrator.
 - Working on brochure for all parents in three school systems about Infectious disease, hand washing & cough etiquette.
 - PanFlu Educator conducted presentation for Chase City Chamber of Commerce and has scheduled presentations for Clarksville Elementary PTA, Concord Baptist Association, Boynton Ruritan Club. Following up with requests from a local Marine unit and the Mecklenburg Electric Co-op for presentations after the first of the year.
 - PanFlu Educator has contacted school principals, civic and religious groups and continues to follow-up to set dates. Working with school PTAs to give presentation and solicit volunteers for mass clinics.
 - Planner is awaiting a response from Brunswick County Emergency Coordinator for dates to hold first responder vaccination clinics.
 - Brunswick County LEPC and PanFlu committee met with Board of Supervisors about future emergency management activities.
 - Planner working with evaluators on Mass Flu Vaccination exercise AAR.
 - Planner completing local Hazard Assessments for JACHO for the hospital disaster planner.

- Planner and educator applying for additional MRC funds and support from local hospitals.
- **West Piedmont**
 - Epidemiologist and Planner attended meetings in Charlottesville.
 - Planner and epidemiologist attended Henry County Pandemic Influenza meeting; this meeting was geared more toward how to reach the public.